BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATIO 1 2 3 IN THE MATTER OF US WEST COMMUNICATIONS, INC.'S COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION) DOCKET NO. 271 OF THE T-00000A-97-0238 TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT 6 OF 1996) PROCEDURAL CONFERENCE 7 8 9 10 11 12 At: Phoenix, Arizona Date: March 5, 2001 13 MAR 2 1 2001 14 Filed: 15 16 17 REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS 18 19 20 ARIZONA REPORTING SERVICE, INC. Court Reporting 21 Suite Three 2627 North Third Street 22 Phoenix, Arizona 85004-1103 23 By: JANICE SCHUTZMAN, RPR, RMR CCR No. 50353 Prepared for: 24

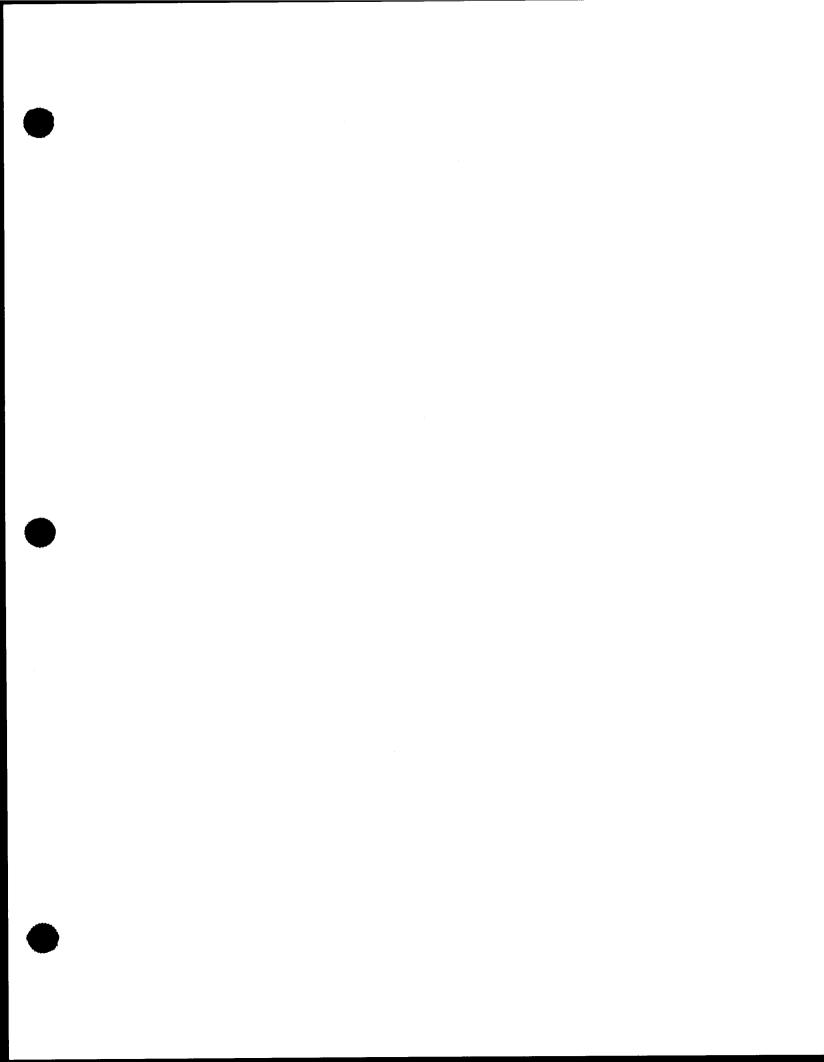
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ORIGINAL



1	BE IT REMEMBERED that the above-entitled
2	and numbered matter came on regularly to be heard
3	before the Arizona Corporation Commission in
4	Hearing Room 1 of said Commission, 1200 West
5	Washington Street Phoenix, Arizona, commencing at
6	11:15 a.m., on the 5th day of March, 2001.
7	
8	BEFORE: Acting Assistant Chief Administrative Law Judge Jane L. Rodda
9	APPEARANCES:
10	For Applicant Qwest:
11	Chuck Steese
12	1801 California Street Denver, Colorado 80202
13 14	For WorldCom:
15	Thomas F. Dixon 707 17th Street Suite 3900
16	Denver, Colorado 80202
17	For AT&T:
18	Richard S. Wolters (Appearing Telephonically)
19	1875 Lawrence Street Room 1575
2 0	Denver, Colorado 80202
21	For Commission Staff: Maureen Scott
22	Legal Division 1200 West Washington Street
23	Phoenix, Arizona 85007
2 4	JANICE SCHUTZMAN
2.5	CCR No. 50353

- 1 AACALJ RODDA: Let's go on the record
- 2 then in docket T-00000A-97-0238 in the matter of
- 3 U S WEST Communications's compliance with Section
- 4 271 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.
- 5 My name is Jane Rodda, administrative law
- 6 judge assigned to this matter.
- 7 And I guess the first thing I'd like to
- 8 do, since I think I forgot to say, we're here on a
- 9 procedural conference on AT&T's motion.
- But anyway, first thing I'd like to do is
- 11 take the appearances of the parties.
- 12 On behalf of Owest.
- MR. STEESE: Chuck Steese on behalf of
- 14 Owest.
- 15 AACALJ RODDA: On behalf of AT&T.
- MR. WOLTERS: Richard Wolters on behalf
- 17 of AT&T.
- 18 AACALJ RODDA: And on behalf of WorldCom.
- 19 MR. DIXON: Good morning. Thomas Dixon
- 20 appearing on behalf of WorldCom and its regulated
- 21 subsidiaries.
- 22 AACALJ RODDA: On behalf of Staff.
- MS. SCOTT: Maureen Scott on behalf of
- 24 Staff.
- 25 AACALJ RODDA: Thank you all for coming

- 1 this morning and helping me with this matter.
- 2 Mr. Wolters, I guess this is your motion,
- 3 but can you tell me what, I guess, you know, you
- 4 filed your motion, we've had some responses, Staff
- 5 has tried to come up with a compromise.
- 6 Why don't you tell me what your position
- 7 is today.
- 8 MR. WOLTERS: I have talked to Staff
- 9 earlier today, and I believe that Staff and AT&T
- 10 fundamentally agree to a process that would work
- 11 for disputed issues, new law, or law and change of
- 12 law.
- 13 I still believe that Qwest has some
- 14 concerns about the whole concept of bringing issues
- 15 in from other jurisdictions that were not raised in
- 16 Arizona. So I think fundamentally, I think Owest
- 17 still has some opposition to what AT&T proposes.
- 18 But I think as far as Staff and AT&T, I
- 19 think we could draft a written proposal that would,
- 20 or draft order that would reflect our positions.
- I think we still have some convincing of
- 22 Qwest to do to get them to go along with that.
- AACALJ RODDA: Well, why don't you tell
- 24 me what your proposal is and then I'll ask Qwest
- 25 what their position is.

- 1 MR. WOLTERS: I'll try to do that as best
- 2 I can.
- I think AT&T's proposal, when a party
- 4 finds out about law that it was not aware of during
- 5 the Workshop process, that they should be able to
- 6 bring that new law in to the attention of the
- 7 Commission at any time.
- 8 With a change of law we believe that
- 9 should be the same, that any time there is a change
- 10 of law, a party should be able to bring that to the
- 11 attention of the Commission and allow them to
- 12 determine whether that additional legal authority
- or the new change of law would impact its decision
- 14 or prior decision on whether Owest has met a
- 15 certain checklist item or not.
- 16 As far as the disputed issue that was
- 17 raised in another jurisdiction that was not raised
- 18 in Arizona, AT&T believes that that disputed issue
- 19 should be brought forward to the Commission in
- 20 Arizona and give them an opportunity to render a
- 21 decision for Arizona on that disputed issue.
- There was a proposed AT&T reply that
- 23 essentially what would happen is the CLEC wishing
- 24 to do that would have to file comments within 10
- 25 business days of when an issue, disputed issue in

- 1 another jurisdiction went to impasse. So if that
- 2 issue is not raised in Arizona, they would have 10
- 3 days stays from that issue going into impasse in
- 4 another jurisdiction to file comments with the
- 5 Staff generally identifying the issue and briefly
- 6 summarize the CLEC/Qwest position on the issue.
- Now, offline there was some discussions
- 8 with Staff about how that would address factual
- 9 issues. And I believe Staff and AT&T and I are
- 10 agreeable to attaching the transcript from the
- 11 jurisdiction, and I think I'd have to say
- 12 jurisdictions, that took the issue to impasse.
- So if it went impasse in -- well, I guess
- 14 it's the first state that went to impasse. So
- 15 attach the transcript from that state along with
- 16 the comments and send them to Staff and Staff would
- 17 do a report.
- 18 Now one of the things Staff raised in
- 19 their motion or response was the issue of the
- 20 parties should have been aware of the issue or were
- 21 they aware or should they have been aware of the
- 22 issue. And there was some difficulty that I have
- 23 with that standard, and I think I described those
- 24 problems in my reply.
- I believe Staff is willing to use a

- 1 standard, whether it is 271 or 251 affecting, and
- 2 AT&T would be willing to use that standard.
- When we filed our comments, once again we
- 4 identified the issue, we submitted those comments.
- 5 I think we need to add a reply round, give parties
- 6 a week to reply and then Staff would look at that
- 7 and determine whether it is 251 or 271 affecting
- 8 and then draft its report. If they believe it was
- 9 not 251 or 271 affecting, that would be their
- 10 conclusion.
- 11 I'm not sure we totally discussed how
- 12 that would proceed, but I think what would, it was
- 13 agreed that if Staff reached an agreement that it
- was not 251 or 271 affecting, that the company or
- 15 CLEC would still be free to raise that issue at the
- 16 FCC and the Staff would not take objection to
- 17 that.
- 18 So if I could sum up this last part the
- 19 best I can, the CLEC would file comments stating
- 20 what the disputed issue is within 10 business days,
- 21 they would attach the transcript from the
- 22 jurisdiction that it went to impasse, they would
- 23 file those comments, parties would have seven days
- 24 to file replies. Also the CLECs should in their
- comments explain why they believe it's 251 or 271

- 1 affecting.
- 2 It would go to Staff after comments,
- 3 reply comments and they would draft a report. If
- 4 they believed it was 251 or 271 affecting, they
- 5 would file their report and it would go through the
- 6 disputed process in the present procedural order.
- 7 If there was a decision by Staff that it
- 8 was not 271 or 251 affecting, I think the parties
- 9 should have the opportunities to file a formal
- 10 motion with the hearing division.
- I think that pretty much sums up our
- 12 position.
- Now, in our comments, initial motion, we
- 14 filed the issue about new issues, and I think that
- 15 has not really had any discussion about whether an
- issue wanted to be raised that's new that was not
- 17 raised in any other jurisdiction, I think that has
- 18 not been discussed very well.
- But I think AT&T would be willing to say
- 20 that if Workshop has been closed and the Commission
- 21 has rendered an order, that the parties be
- 22 responsible for filing a formal motion with the
- 23 division, I mean the hearing division. I think
- 24 that's essentially an option anybody has at any
- 25 time and it would just go through that process.

- 1 AACALJ RODDA: Okay. Thank you.
- 2 Mr. Steese, do you have --
- MR. STEESE: I have a response, sure.
- 4 MR. WOLTERS: I cannot hear anybody
- 5 speaking.
- 6 AACALJ RODDA: No one is speaking. We're
- 7 just trying to find a microphone that works.
- 8 MR. WOLTERS: Ask Mr. Dixon to share.
- 9 MR. STEESE: Rick, can you hear me?
- MR. WOLTERS: Go ahead, Chuck.
- MR. STEESE: Basically what Qwest is here
- 12 to talk about is the issue of what we think is
- 13 fairness. We started the 271 process in this state
- in January of 1999, two years ago. We've been
- 15 qoing through Workshops now since September of 1999
- 16 in one form or another.
- We've had weeks of Workshops in OSS, we
- 18 had two weeks of Workshops in the first seven
- 19 checklist items scattered throughout a couple of
- 20 months, we've had 10 days of Workshops on checklist
- 21 items one and 14, we've had eight days of Workshops
- 22 on emerging services, we've had seven days of
- 23 Workshop on UNE combo, switching and transport with
- 24 five more to come. Starting this week, we have 10
- 25 days of Workshops on loops and number portability.

- 1 After those Workshops we have three days
- of Workshops on general terms and conditions,
- 3 forecasting and the BFR process and a week on
- 4 public interest and track A.
- When you add all of that up, we're going
- 6 to be into 60 days of Workshop time frame, 12 full
- 7 weeks of time for people to raise issues. And now
- 8 what we're hearing is we might have missed
- 9 something, and if we might have missed something,
- 10 we need an opportunity to find a way to raise it
- 11 later on.
- Well, the Workshops, as a general rule,
- 13 have been working fairly well, but there have been
- 14 at least two Workshops that I recall that I was in
- 15 personally where the only technical witnesses were
- 16 Qwest's, the only witnesses were Owest's, and all
- 17 the other parties brought was lawyers. And now
- 18 they're saying: But we want to potentially raise
- 19 other issues.
- 20 We think that's a shame on them. Focus
- on the issue when you're in the Workshop.
- In addition to that, Qwest is very
- 23 concerned that this is going, if we actually adopt
- 24 AT&T's motion, there is going to be less of an
- 25 incentive than there already is to actually file

- 1 comments in a timely way.
- We started out the process and parties
- 3 were filing timely comments, and this really does
- 4 not apply to AT&T and WorldCom as much, but we have
- 5 parties now raising issues orally in rebuttal at
- 6 the Workshop. And think about what incentive there
- 7 is going to be to raise issues if they can raise it
- 8 at any time, at any place.
- 9 And so that is the crux of our
- 10 frustration. I mean we deal with so many scores of
- 11 issues, it's unbelievable. Issues that go way
- 12 beyond the requirements of 251 and 271, and we deal
- 13 with them on the merits. If they go to impasse,
- our brief might be we shouldn't deal with this,
- 15 it's not a legal requirement. But we deal with
- 16 them in the Workshop on the merits.
- And we have been there, like I said, and
- 18 by the time this process is over, it will be more
- 19 than 60 days, not counting OSS.
- We believe the only appropriate standard
- 21 is if there was something they didn't have at the
- 22 time, was there facts that are new, is there law
- 23 that's new, a new requirement. And we have shown
- 24 that we are willing to deal with those issues.
- In January of 2001 the FCC issued a new

- 1 decision supplemental order on line sharing. And
- 2 in it they established for the first time a
- 3 requirement to line share over fiber.
- 4 Without getting into what that means,
- 5 because everyone is still trying to figure it out,
- 6 the simple fact is we're dealing with it on the
- 7 merits and understand that we have to. Because
- 8 there is no way the CLECs could have raised that in
- 9 the Workshop process because it came, a new
- 10 decision came along.
- 11 Similarly, if someone could bring forth
- 12 knew facts that said, you know, I was dealing with
- 13 Owest on this issue and now we have this new
- 14 problem, you know, in the past we didn't have this
- 15 collocation issue but now they're rejecting our
- 16 applications out of hand for X reason and it's
- 17 brand new issue, that would be fair because they
- 18 wouldn't have had an opportunity to raise it.
- But if the issue is where they not only
- 20 had an opportunity to raise it, but in many
- 21 instances did in one form or another and now
- they're coming back and saying, you know what, we
- 23 didn't like the deal we struck, and that's where we
- 24 are today.
- 25 Example: On checklist item three which

- 1 is access to poles, ducts, conduits, rights of way
- 2 there was a FCC rule. That FCC rule says 45 days
- 3 to do an inquiry for poles, ducts, conduits, rights
- 4 of way. And we sat down, based on that very rule,
- 5 and negotiated an agreement with the participants
- 6 which included AT&T and WorldCom.
- 7 And what it is is a graduated schedule,
- 8 45 days for what Qwest believed was a reasonable
- 9 request. But if literally you're asking for
- 10 conduit from one side of the state to another, from
- 11 Tucson to Flagstaff, it's going to take more time
- than 45 days to go in and check every conduit or
- 13 every pole attachment. And we've had requests
- 14 literally that have come in that have been hundreds
- and hundreds of miles long. And they voluntarily,
- 16 based on the rule, negotiated an agreement. And we
- 17 memorialized that agreement in our SGAT.
- And then in other states they went we
- 19 really didn't like the deal we struck, fine, and we
- 20 didn't like it, but in those states they raised the
- 21 issue, we dealt with it on the merits, we're
- 22 briefing it.
- Here now they want to come back and
- 24 re-raise this issue that they agreed to. And what
- 25 makes that much more frustrating to us is the FCC

- 1 has granted 271 to Southwestern Bell in Texas and
- 2 they used a very similar graduated scale. If
- 3 anything, it's more, it's less progressive to the
- 4 CLECs than ours.
- And so when we hear someone say the legal
- 6 standard should be 251 or 271 affecting, they're
- 7 going to argue everything is 271 or 251 affecting.
- 8 And that's why we think the standard should be is
- 9 there new law, are there new facts, if they are,
- 10 you're free to raise them.
- 11 AACALJ RODDA: I'm sorry, the example you
- 12 just gave me, that was something that had been
- 13 negotiated in Arizona?
- 14 MR. STEESE: In Arizona.
- 15 AACALJ RODDA: And in other jurisdictions
- 16 they were arguing it anew?
- 17 MR. STEESE: They argued, they said we
- 18 didn't like the deal we struck, we're not going to
- 19 live with that.
- 20 AACALJ RODDA: Isn't that different than
- 21 an issue that's raised the first time in another
- jurisdiction that hadn't been addressed in
- 23 Arizona?
- MR. STEESE: Arguably, yes. But the
- 25 thing is the only difference is one of semantics.

- If the law is there, and we never, they
- 2 never even saw fit to raise it, I would say a
- 3 fortiari it applies thereto. If there is law on
- 4 the subject, if there are facts on the subject, you
- 5 need to do your due diligence in advance, find out
- 6 what your issues are and bring them here.
- 7 And it's just statutes of limitation. We
- 8 as lawyers deal with this all the time. The simple
- 9 fact is, if you go into a judge and you say, you
- 10 know, I wasn't aware of that, I know it was out
- 11 there, it was public knowledge, but I just didn't
- do my homework, I know what a judge is going to do
- on a statute of limitations argument, he's going to
- 14 say you're out of here. You had the opportunity to
- 15 raise it and you did not.
- 16 And so we, Qwest, have been more than
- 17 willing to deal with issues in these Workshops.
- 18 Haven't liked every issue that comes up, we don't
- 19 reach -- we reached consensus on many items. But
- 20 the only way we can keep people focused on the
- 21 issues is to require them to do their homework in
- 22 advance.
- Last, and this is very important, if they
- 24 don't raise it here, is this issue forever gone, is
- 25 there no way they can raise these issues? Of

- 1 course not.
- When you look at the law, what we're in
- 3 there doing is, and what all these impasse issues
- 4 come under is the SGAT, the Statement of Generally
- 5 Available Terms and Conditions. It is our standard
- 6 contract offer.
- 7 AT&T and WorldCom can go in and say I
- 8 like everything except these five provisions and I
- 9 want to negotiate over these five provisions. And
- 10 to the extent that those are their five issues they
- 11 failed to raise, they're not prejudiced, they get
- 12 to deal with us and we're required to negotiate in
- 13 good faith, which we will do.
- 14 And to the extent that we don't agree, we
- 15 go sorry, won't do it, we disagree. Do they still
- 16 have opportunities? Of course. Then they can
- 17 still arbitrate under the Act.
- So by failing to raise an issue here, it
- 19 just means 271 can move along. It does not mean
- 20 that they are forever precluded from raising an
- 21 issue.
- 22 And when you look at the balance of
- 23 things, how can you keep 271 moving while not
- 24 prejudicing the CLECs, we think that's the
- 25 appropriate thing to do. The 271, raise your

- 1 issues, raise them in the Workshops. If you don't
- 2 raise them, you've lost them. However, new law,
- 3 new facts, free to raise. Of course, CLECs, you
- 4 always have the opportunity to negotiate. You
- 5 always have the opportunity, if you don't like it,
- 6 to arbitrate and so you really haven't lost
- 7 anything. Just focus on 271 the way it was meant
- 8 to be focused on.
- 9 AACALJ RODDA: Let me ask Miss Scott
- 10 this: Is what AT&T generally proposed, is this
- 11 something important that, I mean is it Staff's
- 12 position that whatever new issues that arise in
- 13 other jurisdictions needs to be considered in
- 14 Arizona?
- 15 MS. SCOTT: Staff believes that because
- of the way this Workshop process has developed on a
- 17 region-wide basis, where the parties will come to
- 18 Arizona, for instance this week, establish a record
- 19 on loops, LNP, those same parties will use this
- 20 record as a starting point for their negotiations
- 21 and discussions for instance in the Oregon
- Workshop, which may be conducted next week, and
- 23 then they will use the Oregon transcript to go to
- 24 Washington.
- So essentially, it's turned out to be a

- 1 cumulative process between the states. And for
- 2 that reason, Staff believes that it is important to
- 3 look at disputed issues that arise in these other
- 4 state Workshops for the first time.
- 5 However, in fairness to Qwest, Staff does
- 6 believe that there should be a standard that's used
- 7 and that the process that's put in place to address
- 8 these issues is as expedited as possible.
- 9 The standard that Staff proposed for
- 10 legal issues it now believes should be applied
- 11 across the board. Because I think as Mr. Wolters
- 12 pointed out in his response to our reply, the
- 13 standard we had originally proposed for factual
- 14 issues was was the party aware of it at the time or
- 15 should they have been aware of it Staff now
- 16 believes may be unworkable and may just generate a
- 17 lot of disputes as to what that means.
- 18 So what Staff proposes instead is just to
- 19 use the standard is this an 271 or 251 affecting
- 20 issue. In other words does it call into question
- 21 Qwest's compliance under either Section 271 or 251
- 22 of the Act.
- In response to Mr. Steese's concern that
- 24 this is going to engender a lot of delay and result
- in many more days of Workshops, Mr. Wolters and I

- 1 spoke this morning about that. Staff conveyed its
- 2 concern that we come up with a process that was
- 3 fair to Qwest in that regard and that is the
- 4 agreement that was reached there, was that we would
- 5 use the impasse record that was developed in the
- 6 other state Workshops. That way there would not be
- 7 a need for additional Workshops in Arizona.
- 8 We would, the parties would rely on that
- 9 record, would submit that record and their briefs
- 10 within a ten day period. Other parties could be
- 11 allowed to reply in seven days and then Staff would
- 12 come out with its supplemental report to the
- 13 hearing division in 10 days.
- 14 And Staff also agrees with both parties
- 15 that new law, new facts or change toes law should
- 16 definitely come in.
- 17 AACALJ RODDA: Does it matter, I quess
- 18 I'll just ask you Maureen: Does it matter when in
- 19 the process the new issues are raised, whether it's
- 20 after Workshop is closed but before there is a
- 21 Staff report or after a Staff report or after a
- 22 Commission decision? And if it doesn't matter when
- 23 in the process, it can raise these issues even
- 24 after a final decision Commission, what does the
- 25 final Commission decision mean then?

- 1 MS. SCOTT: I think that the past
- 2 decisions of the Commission goes on the checklist
- 3 items. In particular if we take a look at seven,
- 4 three and 10, where this issue did arise, the
- 5 Commission's final reports were contingent upon the
- hearing division addressing this issue of whether
- 7 or not disputed issues could come in.
- I think the way I have always looked at
- 9 this, and the other parties may differ, I think the
- 10 Commission's original orders would still stand.
- 11 That is at that time either Owest did or did not
- 12 comply with the checklist items and met the 271
- 13 requirements.
- 14 What the supplemental reports then would
- 15 do would be to build upon that. And depending upon
- 16 the issues raised, the supplemental reports would
- 17 either say Qwest, you need to do something
- 18 additional to meet this 271 standard now so this is
- 19 what we order you to do, or we don't believe that
- 20 Qwest needs to do anything additional, that Qwest,
- 21 we don't find merit in the arguments that are
- 22 presented by AT&T or WorldCom, as an example, and
- 23 therefore Qwest doesn't need to do anything
- 24 further.
- 25 AACALJ RODDA: Have other jurisdictions

- 1 addressed this issue or is this --
- MS. SCOTT: That may be a question that
- 3 would be better posed to either Chuck or Rick or
- 4 Tom.
- 5 MR. STEESE: Other Commissions done
- 6 this?
- 7 AACALJ RODDA: Other jurisdictions
- 8 addressed the issue like after their Workshops have
- 9 closed and Arizona raises an issue?
- MR. STEESE: The other procedural orders
- 11 that do exist are much more like what we have in
- 12 Arizona today, where you have time frames for
- 13 addressing issues, time frames for raising issues
- 14 and time frames for getting resolution of issues.
- 15 So while no one has addressed this
- 16 directly, this motion by AT&T has been filed in
- 17 Arizona only, Qwest does think that the resolution
- 18 would be the same. I mean it would be impossible
- 19 for us to say sorry, you didn't raise the line
- 20 sharing order that didn't come out until after the
- 21 Workshop was finished. We couldn't do that.
- 22 And so if you look, we think that the
- 23 Arizona order is presently aligned directly with
- 24 all of the other orders.
- And one other thing I might add. AT&T

- 1 has argued that state specific issues in the seven
- 2 state Workshop should await the state and not be
- 3 dealt with in the group. And the states that have
- 4 addressed that rejected that. They have said the
- 5 state specific issues need to be raised during the
- 6 course of the Workshop and failure to raise them
- 7 puts you at risk.
- And what that means, time will tell,
- 9 we're not far enough along to know. But the
- 10 suggestion is the time to raise issues is in the
- 11 Workshop, and we think that is the right response.
- 12 AACALJ RODDA: Mr. Wolters, did you have
- 13 anything? Just a minute, I'm sorry.
- MR. WOLTERS: I'd like Mr. Dixon to have
- 15 an opportunity to go before I would respond.
- MR. DIXON: You saw my hand, Rick, I had
- 17 it raised.
- 18 AACALJ RODDA: How did you know he had
- 19 his hand raised, that's amazing.
- MR. DIXON: I think Rick is the only one
- 21 on the phone.
- Just a couple comments. First we
- obviously concurred in AT&T's original motion and
- 24 filed a separate concurrence so stating.
- I think, what I think you need to focus

- on is, first of all, this is not a traditional
- 2 adjudicatory proceeding before the Commission. It
- 3 is far from a normal adjudicatory hearing where we
- 4 go through the standard due process for an
- 5 adjudicatory hearing. It is something different
- from a traditional rulemaking where the rules tend
- 7 to be relaxed somewhat.
- 8 This is something that's very unique
- 9 which most Commissions have noted in the process.
- 10 In fact that's exactly why we're doing Workshops as
- 11 opposed to formal testimony with formal
- 12 cross-examination.
- Also, this is an ongoing proceeding.
- 14 We're not doing a separate docket for each
- 15 checklist item or groups of checklist items but
- 16 rather we're dealing with one docket that's been
- 17 going on.
- 18 And I would agree with Mr. Steese,
- 19 because I've sat through most of those Workshops as
- 20 well as the OSS ones, that has involved many, many
- 21 hours. So I don't think the statute of limitations
- 22 argument that Mr. Steese raises is particularly
- 23 applicable here because, first of all, the
- 24 proceeding is not even done. It is ongoing and
- 25 will continue, as Mr. Steese pointed out, to go on

- 1 with Workshops that will address other checklist
- 2 items as well as other matters that are addressed
- 3 in the SGAT in general.
- 4 While I understand Mr. Steese's concerns
- 5 about wrapping things up, and I absolutely agree
- 6 that the intent of the parties should be to raise
- 7 all issues possible during the Workshop process, I
- 8 mean that's certainly, I think that's consistent
- 9 with good faith negotiation, and while given the
- 10 nature of these proceedings I'm not sure how that
- 11 standard applies since we're not really arbitrating
- 12 an interconnection agreement.
- I think we're operating in a very similar
- 14 mode and the parties have, if not a legal
- 15 obligation, certainly an effort to try and operate
- in good faith during these proceedings, and I
- 17 honestly believe that has occurred from all
- 18 parties' perspective.
- I think the concept that allowing this
- 20 type of activity to occur, that is what AT&T and
- 21 WorldCom concurs in, that is addressing matters
- 22 after a Workshop is concluded on a particular
- 23 checklist item or group of checklist items.
- 24 If we were to in fact withhold evidence
- 25 and play games, I think we're running up afoul of a

- 1 bad faith process. And while there may not be a
- 2 direct legal obligation to do so, since we're not
- 3 arbitrating a particular agreement, I think it's
- 4 something the Commission could take into account
- 5 certainly if there was a demonstration that a party
- 6 was sitting here and intentionally holding back
- 7 evidence or holding back the process with the
- 8 effort of either finally dropping it on the
- 9 Commission or the hearing division at the last
- 10 minute or worse yet going up to the FCC and raise
- 11 these issues for the first time. And I don't think
- 12 that would be successful either at this Commission
- 13 or the FCC.
- 14 The FCC has clearly indicated it intends
- 15 to grant substantial deference to what the states
- 16 recommend during this proceeds.
- 17 I think what Mr. Steese raises clearly
- 18 reflects the complexity of the issues we're dealing
- 19 with. He takes, for example, the January decision
- 20 that he referenced that came out and said we're all
- 21 trying to work through that decision and no one
- 22 understands it completely and we're all trying to
- 23 interpret it.
- Well, picture doing SGAT language which
- 25 is nothing more than a mini arbitration -- M-I-N-I

- 1 arbitration -- although there are many, M-A-N-Y,
- 2 meetings going on, but it's a mini arbitration
- 3 where we get new language shortly before Workshops,
- 4 we get new SGAT sections shortly before Workshops.
- 5 Sometimes we get language in the Workshops for the
- 6 first time.
- By the same token, I'm not trying to cast
- 8 aspersions, a lot of that language is intended to
- 9 address concerns raised by the parties.
- My point is we're trying to deal with
- 11 these issues on the fly, and that's what it's
- 12 become.
- 13 Yes, Arizona was the very first state to
- 14 start. So why are you the only one with the motion
- in front of you? Because we've all gotten smarter
- in some respects, because in other Workshops issues
- 17 are developed and agreements are reached which
- 18 Qwest has already agreed to bring back in to the
- 19 Arizona process, which to me is an acknowledgment
- 20 in part that these are complex and that the intent
- 21 here is potentially to have perhaps a region-wide
- 22 SGAT, even though each individual state in fact is
- 23 dealing with these issues.
- So I think from the standpoint of that
- 25 this is not a traditional proceeding, that we're in

- 1 an on-going process, we haven't gotten to a final
- 2 decision on anything. We have decisions issued by
- 3 the Commission on various checklist items, and I
- 4 would suggest that until a final recommendation is
- 5 issued by the Commission to more precisely answer
- 6 the question you threw to Miss Scott, I think at
- 7 least parties have the opportunity to raise
- 8 issues.
- 9 They may, I think they need to give a
- 10 basis. I just don't think they can drop something
- on and say hey, we decided to raise this now. I
- 12 think there has to be some showing of good faith,
- 13 some showing that the issue has been raised or come
- 14 up in some other jurisdiction and in fact it was
- 15 something either that we have not discussed
- otherwise or is relevant, and more particularly as
- 17 Miss Scott says to 271 or 251 compliance.
- And those type issues, when I think about
- 19 those, are what I would call factual issues where
- 20 maybe someone is going put new facts, new evidence
- 21 in the record.
- As a practical matter, I believe parties
- 23 can argue law throughout the conclusion of these
- 24 proceedings, even if they didn't argue it in a
- 25 particular Workshop through inadvertence,

- 1 negligent, whatever reason, assuming it isn't bad
- 2 faith and intentional withholding.
- My point, and a good example of that, and
- 4 I'm the first to confess, Mr. Steese's example of
- 5 the 45 day interval for access to poles, ducts and
- 6 right of ways, et cetera, is an issue that
- 7 WorldCom, quite frankly, signed off on the
- 8 amendments and the documents that Mr. Steese has
- 9 made reference to in Washington. Because our
- 10 technical people raised an issue about whether or
- 11 not that was consistent with the law as they now
- 12 understood it in view of a decision that had been
- issued concerning Cavalier Telephone versus
- 14 Virginia Electric and Power that was issued June 7
- 15 of 2000.
- 16 After our Workshops on these issues had
- 17 been concluded, we raised the issue. You know, I
- 18 threw myself to the mercy of the Workshop, I said
- 19 we screwed up. We made a misstatement, we found
- 20 the case that tells us something different than
- 21 what we negotiated. I beg for your indulgence.
- And in every other state we've raised the
- 23 issue once we made that determination, but Arizona
- 24 was too large, we were through the Workshop
- 25 process. So we've raise the issue. But we

- 1 consider it a legal issue.
- While Mr. Steese is arguing about the
- 3 substance of that, and I'm not going to argue
- 4 whether or not, the FCC's interpretation of what
- 5 the rule says, that's not what I'm here to do.
- 6 What I am here to say is we think that's a legal
- 7 issue. The rule says what it says. A case, at
- 8 least one case interprets that particular rule. We
- 9 think we can raise that even if it's after the fact
- 10 because it's a legal issue.
- 11 I'm not here asking to bring a witness in
- 12 to testify factually on issues, I simply will argue
- as a legal issue whether or not the SGAT is
- 14 compliant with the requirements of that case and
- 15 consequently whether that, if not directly impacts
- 16 271 compliance or approval.
- So I think of that one, that example of
- 18 being one of the legal-type issues as opposed to a
- 19 factual issue.
- 20 But I do understand AT&T certainly
- 21 raising potentially, and we concur, that there
- 22 could be factual issues that come up because of
- 23 activity in other Workshops.
- I take issue with Mr. Steese's statement
- 25 that to conclude these Workshops and effectively

- 1 say that when something is done we're at a final
- 2 point, we've hit finality in terms of taking action
- 3 that that doesn't prejudice anyone, I disagree. I
- 4 think it prejudices, particularly if Qwest is
- 5 prematurely allowed to enter the long distance
- 6 market under 271. I think that's prejudicial and I
- 7 don't think that that's what was intended by the
- 8 FCC or federal Telecommunications Act of 1996.
- 9 So while we can negotiate our individual
- 10 contracts, and I absolutely agree that's out there,
- 11 that does not address the real issue in case, which
- is entry into the long distance market by Qwest and
- whether they have complied with the various legal
- 14 requirements under Sections 271 and 251.
- So I would contend certainly that because
- 16 this is not a traditional proceeding and it's
- 17 ongoing, we should have the opportunity to raise
- 18 issues that we did not raise earlier if we make an
- 19 appropriate showing to the Commission.
- 20 And I basically concur with the Staff's
- 21 approach in terms of timing, although I might like
- 22 a little more than 10 calendar days as Mr. Wolters
- 23 has indicated in his Workshop, in his memorandum in
- 24 response to Qwest and Staff's responses.
- I'll be in these Workshops this week.

- 1 I'll be in, I happen to have a vacation next week
- 2 so I won't count that, but the following week I'm
- 3 back in Workshops. It's pretty much a weekly
- 4 ordeal, even for me, and I'm not even thinking
- 5 about the small companies like the DLECs, the
- 6 Rhythms, the Covads that do come in on a piecemeal
- 7 basis. They can't sit through these entire
- 8 proceedings. And come in on short notice. Which
- 9 is exactly what Chuck is talking about, Mr. Steese
- 10 is talking about, where suddenly issues come up
- 11 that weren't necessarily prefiled.
- So we believe under, because of the
- 13 nontraditional nature of this proceeding, AT&T's
- 14 motion is appropriate. WorldCom concurs in it.
- 15 And we would generally agree with the proposals
- 16 that Staff and AT&T reached, at least offline to
- 17 some degree, and from what I've heard sounds
- 18 consistent with what WorldCom would be willing to
- 19 accept.
- 20 AACALJ RODDA: Let me make sure, maybe
- 21 I'll ask Mr. Steese this.
- 22 Arizona Workshops are closed and there is
- 23 an issue in another jurisdiction, a new issue.
- 24 Qwest has agreed -- and the party, there is no
- 25 impact, I mean the parties work it out.

- 1 Now Qwest has agreed that that change,
- 2 that SGAT language can come into Arizona, is
- 3 that --
- 4 MR. STEESE: So long as no parties
- 5 object.
- 6 AACALJ RODDA: No parties in Arizona
- 7 object.
- 8 MR. STEESE: The whole point is you need
- 9 to attend the Workshops here. I mean there are
- some unique parties in each state, not every state,
- 11 virtually every state. And so if you bring in
- 12 consensus language from Oregon, let's say, into
- 13 Arizona and a party objects and says I wasn't party
- 14 to that, I don't want to do that, it would be hard
- 15 pressed to force it upon, you know, Arizona since
- 16 we did have an opportunity for parties to
- 17 participate there. But that's the only exception.
- 18 AACALJ RODDA: But then your position is
- 19 there is an impasse in the other state, and it's
- 20 not new fact or it's not new law, as you define new
- 21 fact and new law, they're just out of luck in
- 22 Arizona, Arizona just goes on.
- MR. STEESE: I mean new fact and new law
- in the broadest of senses.
- I want to respond very briefly to

- 1 Mr. Dixon's comments about the Cavalier decision.
- 2 While I was not privy to those negotiations, I did
- 3 speak at some length with the party who was and the
- 4 Cavalier decision came up in the negotiations for
- 5 Arizona. And it was specifically discussed and the
- 6 agreement was modified to account for that
- 7 decision.
- And so while the Workshops ended in
- 9 March, the agreement wasn't struck until late June
- 10 on checklist item three.
- And so when we mean new law, we truly
- 12 mean new law. We don't mean new law but some new
- 13 decision comes out that changes things, but we
- 14 don't want to look at that. New facts, new law, in
- 15 the context that you would think of it is what
- 16 we're intending. So it's not some limitation on
- 17 new facts, new law.
- 18 AACALJ RODDA: So whatever the Commission
- 19 here decides on this procedure is going to affect
- 20 checklist items three, seven and 10 because this
- 21 issue has specifically arisen in those three items,
- 22 right?
- MR. STEESE: Correct.
- 24 AACALJ RODDA: One of them is access
- 25 to --

- 1 MR. STEESE: Poles, ducts, conduits,
- 2 rights of way, correct.
- But the decision you're rendering here
- 4 doesn't only affect those.
- 5 AACALJ RODDA: I understand that.
- 6 MR. STEESE: I mean, I am curious to hear
- 7 that really it can happen at any point in time.
- 8 And it's true Arizona is ahead. If you look at
- 9 where people are, states are, Nebraska and Arizona
- 10 are pretty much leading the pack.
- 11 And we don't want this to become the
- 12 lowest common denominator which could be possible
- 13 based on the arguments here being raised. And on
- 14 top of that, we also heard comments about how no
- one is going to be prejudiced and that WorldCom
- 16 says we're going to be prejudiced by premature
- 17 entry.
- 18 And there is a lot of issues going back
- and forth here, and certainly we'll get them all
- 20 out on the table.
- We want in as soon as possible. And
- 22 WorldCom and AT&T would say they want it even if
- 23 they're not ready. And irrespective of the truth
- 24 of that, the flip is equally true. And that is
- 25 AT&T and WorldCom are the two primary long distance

- 1 carriers, and according to reports done by an
- 2 independent party here in the not too distant past,
- 3 just a few weeks ago, the revenue opportunity for
- 4 Qwest is \$1.7 billion a year region wide.
- 5 So who is that going to come from? It's
- 6 going to come from AT&T and WorldCom primarily.
- 7 And so there needs to be a balance here,
- 8 which is exactly what we're saying. Bring your
- 9 issues. If there are truly new issues that come
- 10 up, new facts, new law, bring them in, we'll deal
- 11 with them. But to create an incentive to not bring
- 12 issues.
- And if there was a way that we could show
- 14 people were operating in good faith, that would be
- 15 great. But the simple fact is, I mean what are we
- 16 going to have? Exactly what we have today and that
- is the law was out there and you didn't raise it.
- 18 And for us to then take that and say bad faith is
- 19 going to be very difficult.
- And we'll raise those issues and say the
- 21 law was out there, but under the proposals that are
- 22 being propounded here by the intervenors, you know,
- 23 the issue would be dealt with in earnest anyway
- 24 even if the law was there for them to see. So it's
- 25 going to be impossible for us to show their true

- 1 motivation.
- 2 And the simple fact is if you require
- 3 them to bring forth the material now, I think all,
- 4 everything will be resolved. I mean people will
- 5 bring their issues.
- 6 AACALJ RODDA: Mr. Dixon.
- 7 MR. DIXON: Judge, I have a couple
- 8 comments.
- 9 First of all, recognizing the motivations
- 10 of parties, that is who wants in the market and who
- 11 wants out, Qwest talks about the \$1.7 billion long
- 12 distance market. Obviously the local market is
- 13 also one that has numbers of a similar vein in
- 14 terms of what's available.
- 15 But I want to make it clear for the
- 16 record as it relates to WorldCom, WorldCom did not
- 17 oppose the New York 271 application because it was
- 18 satisfied that the Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier
- 19 had in fact set up the necessary legal requirements
- 20 to comply with 271 approval.
- So I want to point out from WorldCom's
- 22 perspective, we don't just oppose every application
- 23 to keep Qwest out of the market. We focus on
- 24 whether they have properly opened their local
- 25 market as required under the Act, the necessary

- 1 precondition to their entry into the long distance
- 2 market.
- And I can assure Owest and this
- 4 Commission that if Qwest meets the obligations that
- 5 happen in New York, once again, it would be very
- 6 unlikely that WorldCom would oppose such an
- 7 application.
- 8 The issues here that we're dealing with,
- 9 some of them are newer and came up after the New
- 10 York process and continue to be worked on, but the
- 11 bottom line is our goal is not simply to oppose
- 12 Qwest's application, nor is our goal one to delay
- 13 the process. We have in fact expedited this
- 14 process of late. We continue to move these
- 15 schedules up and work with parties on how to
- 16 address the issues even though the odds of us
- 17 getting done in this state are probably another
- 18 several months away before we get through all the
- 19 Workshops and the OSS test, even among the
- 20 performance assurance antibacksliding process.
- 21 But we continue to handle this Workshop
- 22 on an expeditious basis, recognizing they are going
- on in five other forums, four other forums,
- 24 Colorado, Washington, Oregon and then the
- 25 multistate. So basically we're dealing with

- 1 something that addresses roughly 12 states. And
- 2 we're trying to interact with all of these states
- 3 in all these Workshops.
- 4 The good news is Arizona was well out
- 5 ahead when it came to what we call non-OSS
- 6 checklist items, which is what has generated this
- 7 activity. Those checklist items were three, seven
- 8 through 10 and 12 and 13. The other states and
- 9 Arizona are closing the gap, if you will, on
- 10 interconnection and collocation which dealt with
- 11 checklist items one and 14. And in fact Colorado
- 12 and Arizona will be briefing those issues within
- 13 two days of each other, Washington has already
- 14 completed briefing those issues.
- So I think the problem we've encountered
- on the non-OSS items which started well in advance
- of other states is mitigated substantially by the
- 18 fact that the Workshops with the other states have
- 19 become much more compact. We will literally finish
- 20 another state in a very short period of time as we
- 21 are Arizona.
- So I think the situation we're confronted
- 23 with here is also a function that, as Mr. Steese
- 24 points out, we were doing, we were doing the
- Workshops on these non-OSS items that generated

- 1 this activity almost a year ago. And in fact,
- 2 whereas these other items tend to be, as I said,
- 3 compacting among states, we'll do loops today here,
- 4 we'll be doing loops in April in Colorado; we've
- 5 done UNE-P here, we're doing UNE-P in Colorado in
- 6 two weeks; we've already done one Workshop in UNE-P
- 7 in Colorado.
- 8 So my point is these schedules are
- 9 compacting, and I don't think we'll encounter these
- on a going-forward basis because of the fact that
- 11 the Workshops are so closely scheduled where the
- 12 first ones in Arizona were well out ahead of
- 13 everybody else.
- 14 AACALJ RODDA: Let me ask either
- 15 Mr. Wolters or Miss Scott: Let's just take this
- 16 example, just as sort of an example, although it's
- 17 the most concrete one I have, this is access to
- 18 poles. And there seems to be an issue of law, I
- 19 mean, I think I've heard today that whatever case
- 20 is being relied on existed while Arizona was
- 21 negotiating --
- Anyway, what would be the process under
- 23 AT&T's proposal is that AT&T or the CLEC would
- 24 raise the issue with Staff, and what would Staff do
- 25 and where does hearing come in.

- 1 MS. SCOTT: I think the CLEC would bring
- 2 back the record from the state that impasse was
- 3 declared, file that along with a supporting brief
- 4 with the Staff, and other parties would then have
- 5 seven days to comment.
- 6 Staff would then have 10 days to put
- 7 together a supplemental report, and since these
- 8 issues are disputed, the process provides that
- 9 Staff will prepare its proposed recommendation to
- 10 the hearing division and then the hearing division
- 11 may require briefs on Staff's recommendation, but
- 12 the hearing division makes the ultimate
- 13 determination on the issue. We just provide you
- 14 with the recommendation.
- 15 AACALJ RODDA: Okay, which may or may not
- 16 be or the hearing may or may not decide that it
- 17 should be, I mean.
- MS. SCOTT: The hearing division may
- 19 decide that Staff's proposed report is the way to
- 20 address the issue or it could decide to modify the
- 21 findings or incorporate different findings.
- MR. DIXON: Judge, may I respond to that
- 23 just briefly?
- 24 AACALJ RODDA: Briefly.
- MR. DIXON: I think the answer is exactly

- 1 what happened. If you follow the procedural order,
- 2 Staff issued a report, we raised the issue. Had
- 3 we, again if we waited until the very end to do
- 4 something, it would be a different story. But I
- 5 think once that proposed report is issued, that to
- 6 the extent there is anything missing from any other
- 7 Workshop or whatever, that's when it was raised and
- 8 that's when it should be raised.
- 9 So that it is, obviously I indicated
- 10 earlier -- I'm trying to respond to nodding heads
- 11 from Miss Scott -- clearly intends to raise
- 12 everything in the Workshops. But if we ran into
- 13 something that came after the fact, the process we
- 14 used here was to raise it at the time we were
- 15 advised of what the report would be looking like
- 16 and we were working under the procedural order at
- 17 that point.
- 18 AACALJ RODDA: Miss Scott.
- MS. SCOTT: I would just like to respond
- 20 very briefly also.
- That's why we agreed with AT&T, the point
- 22 that Mr. Dixon has just raised, we would want some
- 23 time line imposed so that, for instance, parties
- 24 couldn't wait until we issued our report or after
- 25 to first raise an issue.

- 1 The standard that we would want to see
- 2 adopted would be that once the issue is declared at
- 3 impasse in another state, the parties have 10 days
- 4 to bring that record back and to file their brief
- 5 with the Staff.
- 6 MR. DIXON: Your Honor, I indicated
- 7 earlier I agreed with Staff's proposal. I just
- 8 went, in general I was trying to explain how we had
- 9 done it the last go around here. I have agreed
- 10 already with the proposal, once it goes to impasse
- in other states, we have a period of time to
- 12 address the issue here.
- 13 AACALJ RODDA: When you talk about seven
- 14 days or 10 days, are you talking calendar or
- 15 business?
- 16 MR. WOLTERS: AT&T is talking calendar.
- 17 Excuse me, business days.
- MR. DIXON: I was going to say, your
- 19 motion says business.
- MR. WOLTERS: 10 days is essentially two
- 21 weeks then.
- MS. SCOTT: That would be acceptable to
- 23 Staff.
- MR. WOLTERS: Before you close, I'd like
- 25 to wrap up.

- 1 AACALJ RODDA: Okay.
- MR. WOLTERS: If you have no more
- 3 questions.
- I think Mr. Steese and Mr. Dixon did a
- 5 pretty good job of trying to explain the process,
- 6 but I'm going to take one more stab at it.
- 7 I think what I want you to be aware of is
- 8 how this process has worked and is that Qwest has
- 9 filed an SGAT and is essentially relying on that
- 10 SGAT to show that it meets the checklist items and
- 11 complies with 251.
- Now it hasn't made a real big point to
- 13 relying on its interconnection agreements because
- 14 there is a lot of new issues that have come up
- 15 since those interconnection agreements and FCC
- 16 orders they have to show that they comply with. So
- 17 the parties are pretty much focused on the SGAT.
- Now what happens is you get in these
- 19 Workshops and you start having discussions about
- 20 the SGAT and parties ask questions and it's very
- 21 open and free flowing and I think very conducive to
- 22 the issues you're trying to discuss.
- But you have to understand this is
- 24 Qwest's SGAT language, and you can try your best to
- 25 think of all the questions, but you may not. And

- 1 you may go to Colorado next and somebody asks the
- 2 question and it creates an answer and you go wait a
- 3 minute, I can't agree with that, that's not the way
- 4 I understood the process to work in your SGAT or
- 5 that's not the way I understood that, that section
- 6 to mean.
- 7 And it would not, it would be a very
- 8 laborious process if we went and asked every
- 9 sentence in the SGAT what they thought it means.
- 10 And I mean we have gone through every section, and
- 11 we have where there is questions that are asked.
- 12 But you can't anticipate the answers to questions
- 13 that you don't ask.
- So, for example, in another state
- 15 somebody may ask questions that will raise an
- 16 entirely different line of questioning that didn't
- 17 come up in Arizona but raises an issue. And you
- 18 say right away, well if I, I can't agree with that,
- 19 you're in dispute, you go to impasse.
- Now to assume that those lines of
- 21 questioning should come up in every jurisdiction is
- 22 not realistic. It's an ongoing process and you
- 23 have to understand the nature of the process. So
- 24 the question is, then, does Arizona go back and
- 25 address those issues.

- 1 Now the options you have are no and yes.
- 2 If you don't address those issues, then when you go
- 3 to the FCC the Arizona Commission has not rendered
- 4 any decision or any, passed any type of judgment on
- 5 that dispute. There is no record and the FCC has
- 6 to make no deference to the Arizona Commission
- 7 because they have not addressed the issue.
- If you do address the issue, then the FCC
- 9 will look to see if the Commission has addressed
- 10 the issue and give it some deference depending on
- 11 the way it was addressed and whether the record was
- 12 adequate. The questions is do you want that
- 13 deference.
- 14 If you ignore and say we will not address
- 15 any other issues raised in other states that went
- 16 to impasse, you will not have that opportunity nor
- 17 will you give the Commission that opportunity. So
- 18 that's a realistic thing you have to recognize.
- 19 And I think Staff picked up on that in their
- 20 response.
- They realize that they can't very well
- 22 say we can't raise the issue at the FCC if we were
- 23 precluded from having the opportunity before the
- 24 Commission. If they are precluded at the
- 25 Commission, we should have every opportunity to

- 1 raise it at the FCC.
- 2 So they recognize two things, deference
- 3 given the Commission and the fact they would like
- 4 to have the Commission deal with it first.
- Now as far as this whole issue about
- 6 prejudice, almost all the jurisdictions, from what
- 7 I can tell looking at the schedules, pretty much
- 8 conclude by the end of July, maybe a Workshop in,
- 9 or two in August, but pretty much the process is
- 10 ending at about the same time.
- 11 The ROC will not be finished by that and
- 12 the OSS test in Arizona is not scheduled to be
- 13 completed before the end of July so I don't see
- 14 this as somehow prolonging the process.
- 15 If something comes to pass in one of the
- other states with 10 business days it's going to
- 17 bring the issue back to Arizona pretty fast and
- 18 have an opportunity to deal with it. So this is
- 19 not like a game breaker where if we do have this
- 20 process, somehow we've unfavorably, can somehow
- 21 prolong this process indefinitely to Qwest's
- 22 disadvantage. I mean there is finality in the
- 23 process proposed by AT&T.
- So I think this whole notion that somehow
- we're going to keep them out of the long distance

- 1 business and keep them from getting \$1.6 billion is
- 2 not really an issue. There really isn't that
- 3 opportunity the way the schedules are built to do
- 4 that.
- 5 And I think more importantly, the issues
- 6 are really in the control of Qwest and will always
- 7 be in the control of Qwest because they're the ones
- 8 that have to show compliance, they're the ones that
- 9 have to pass the OSS test.
- So I don't think what we're proposing
- 11 here is anything that can be used as an opportunity
- 12 to delay. And frankly, I haven't seen that's been
- 13 done. I just have not seen the parties as a whole
- in this process attempt to delay the process. And
- 15 frankly, I think Qwest has been more than willing
- 16 up to this point to take on the issues that parties
- 17 raised and sometimes not always up front.
- I mean sometimes the issues come up
- 19 during discussions in the Workshops and they have
- 20 been very, very, very helpful and willing to
- 21 address those issues. So I think process is
- 22 working.
- I think what AT&T is trying to do is add
- 24 one little thing to the process to make sure there
- 25 is a way to deal with these issues so when Staff

- 1 gets the Staff report and someone raises a new
- 2 issue, it doesn't put them in a position where how
- 3 do I address this issue, that wasn't in my record.
- 4 So I really think what AT&T is trying to
- 5 do is propose a process to address issues, I don't
- 6 think it's harmful, and I would hope that the
- 7 Commission would give itself an opportunity to
- 8 address those issues before going to the FCC
- 9 instead of after.
- 10 Thank you.
- 11 AACALJ RODDA: Thank you.
- MR. STEESE: I have one.
- MR. WOLTERS: I object to any more
- 14 discussion.
- 15 AACALJ RODDA: It's hard on the phone a
- 16 long time, isn't it?
- MR. STEESE: Literally less than one
- 18 minute.
- MR. WOLTERS: Go ahead.
- MR. STEESE: I'm very familiar with the
- 21 impasse issues from checklist items three, seven,
- 22 and 10 and not one of them is endangered by what
- 23 Mr. Wolters described in the next state and then we
- 24 go oh, we didn't understand. They're all issues
- 25 that were either discussed or not raised until the

- 1 next state and they were raised on the merits in
- 2 the first instance which they could have been
- 3 here. So none of those situations apply to the
- 4 impasse issues we have, not one.
- Next, the FCC has addressed the very
- 6 concern that Mr. Wolters raised, and that is to the
- 7 extent that an issue is even raised in a state, the
- 8 FCC has even said oh, your deference is gone. They
- 9 have said you should have raised it down there and
- 10 it's gone. And so it's the exact opposite. There
- is more deference given to CLECs if they raised it
- in the first instance, there is less if they
- 13 didn't.
- 14 And last one of the --
- 15 MR. WOLTERS: I would just like one
- 16 point. May I respond to that?
- 17 AACALJ RODDA: He is still talking.
- MR. STEESE: Last one of timing.
- 19 Mr. Wolters correctly said when the Workshops are
- 20 going to end, but that assumes the process ends
- 21 there. We have to go through the Workshops and
- 22 then we have to go take impasse issues in front of
- 23 the hearing division and then get them up in front
- 24 of the Commission.
- And so we're already going to struggle to

- 1 finish this process in a time frame that is
- 2 contemporaneous with the OSS test which was
- 3 everyone's objective. And now what we're going to
- 4 do is take more issues and give them to you and to
- 5 the Commission, which we think is going to engender
- 6 delay which is the concern.
- 7 I mean if it ends with the Workshops we
- 8 probably are on track, but there is a period of
- 9 weeks after that where we have more that we have to
- 10 do. And we have to bring our impasse issues here,
- 11 we have to get the impasse issues up to the
- 12 Commission. So we do think there is timing
- 13 concerns.
- 14 And that's all I had have. I apologize
- 15 for that.
- 16 AACALJ RODDA: Mr. Wolters.
- 17 MR. WOLTERS: I would just like to say I
- 18 think what happened here is that some issues have
- 19 been discussed that were raised in the earlier
- Workshops, but I think what I'm trying to discuss,
- 21 my motion discusses the process, and that's what
- 22 I'm trying to implement.
- 23 And I don't think that we should be
- 24 sitting here trying to argue the merits of
- 25 particular issues, but look at what the, a process

- 1 warranted to address disputed issues that have come
- 2 up in other states. I think that's important.
- And as far as whether issues that haven't
- 4 been raised at the states cannot be raised at the
- 5 FCC, I tend to disagree with Mr. Steese's
- 6 characterization of FCC's position on that.
- 7 AACALJ RODDA: We're going to let
- 8 Mr. Dixon have the last word.
- 9 MR. DIXON: I just wanted to make one
- 10 comment for the record. Mr. Steese indicated the
- 11 Cavalier case was discussed during the negotiations
- 12 concerning the 45 day rule concerning access to
- 13 poles, ducts and rights of way.
- As you may be aware, much of what goes on
- in these processes is done through e-mail. And I'm
- 16 looking at a May 18 e-mail where we agreed to the
- 17 language and the Cavalier case upon which we relied
- 18 upon was issued June 7, in other words about three
- 19 weeks later.
- So while Cavalier was discussed, and I
- 21 agree with Mr. Steese it's been discussed, it was
- 22 not in Arizona, it didn't exist when we entered
- 23 into the agreement in Arizona, it's been discussed
- 24 in Colorado, Washington and the multistate
- 25 Workshops.

1	That's all I have.
2	AACALJ RODDA: With that, I'm going to
3	thank you all for enlightening me on this issue,
4	and I'll take the matter under advisement.
5	MR. WOLTERS: Thank you.
6	MR. STEESE: Thank you.
7	MR. DIXON: Thank you.
8	MS. SCOTT: Thank you.
9	(Proceedings concluded at 12:15 a.m.)
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1	STATE OF ARIZONA)
2) ss.
3	COUNTY OF MARICOPA)
4	I, JANICE SCHUTZMAN, Certified Court
5	Reporter No. 50353 for the State of Arizona, do
6	hereby certify that the foregoing printed pages
7	constitute a full, true and accurate transcript of
8	the proceedings had in the foregoing matter, all
9	done to the best of my skill and ability.
10	WITNESS my hand and seal this day of
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14	JANICE SCHUTZMAN
15	CCR No. 50353
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